

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

March 10, 2004

BG Steven Hawkins
Division Commander
U. S. Army Corps of Engineers
Great Lakes & Ohio River Division
P.O. Box 1159
Cincinnati, Ohio 45201-1159

Dear General Hawkins:

We are writing to express our strong concern with the recent erosion and subsequent damage along the Ohio River in Clarksville, Indiana. We believe the collapse of a portion of Emory Crossing Road threatens public safety, the Ohio River Greenway Project, a wildlife conservation area, and the historic site where Meriweather Lewis and William Clark met and began their expedition of discovery.

As you may know, Clarksville has lost between 125 to 150 feet of riverbank over the last 30 years. We understand the erosion problem exists north of the lower gates of the McAlpine Dam, and are alarmed by the rate at which the erosion is taking place. The Town of Clarksville is concerned that if this problem is not adequately addressed in the 2004 summer construction season, additional road collapses could occur.

We believe the continued erosion of the riverbank poses a significant threat to the Clarksville community. While we are committed to assisting the Town of Clarksville in every way possible, we believe the Army Corps of Engineers should bear most of the financial burden associated with correcting this problem.

As you continue your important work, we hope you will give this matter your immediate attention and provide much needed federal assistance to prevent further damage.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of our request.

Sincerely,



Richard G. Lugar
U.S. Senator



Evan Bayh
U.S. Senator



Baron P. Hill
Member of Congress